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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20554

15 MAR 1993

Docket 222
POLICY & PLANNING
BRANCH ROOM 5202

IN REPLY REFER TO:

7330-7/1700A3

RECEIVED

MAR 24 1993

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Honorable J. Bennett Johnston
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Johnston:

This is in reply to your letter of February 22, 1993, in which you inquired on behalf of several of your constituents regarding the Notice of Proposed Rule Making (Notice) in PR Docket No. 92-235, 57 FR 54034 (1992). This Notice proposes comprehensive changes to the Commission's Rules governing the private land mobile radio services operating in the frequency bands below 512 MHz.

Your constituents are specifically concerned about the impact of these changes on radio control (R/C) hobby users. Enclosed is a discussion paper concerning our proposals for the 72-76 MHz band. In short, we expect there would be no adverse impact on R/C operations because of any proposal contained in the Notice.

We are, of course, sensitive to the concerns of both users of private land mobile radio spectrum and R/C hobbyists. We will, therefore, take your constituents' concerns into account when we develop final rules in this proceeding. As indicated in the Notice, we remain convinced that without significant regulatory change in radio operations in the bands below 512 MHz, the quality of communications in the private land mobile radio services will continue to deteriorate to the point of endangering public safety and the national economy.

We want to thank you for your interest in this proceeding. Your constituents' letters will be included in the record of the proceeding. We expect final rules to be issued in 1994.

Sincerely,

Joseph A. Levin
for

Richard J. Shiben
Chief, Land Mobile & Microwave Division
Private Radio Bureau

Enclosures
cc:..

CNTL NO - 9300858

Chief, PR Bureau
Chief, LM&M Division
Docket Files, Room 222
P&P Branch File (Pink)

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AND REPLY FOR DOCKET FILE, ROOM 222.

CONGRESSIONAL CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING SYSTEM 02/25/93

LETTER REPORT

CONTROL NO.	DATE RECEIVED	DATE OF CORRESP	DATE DUE	DATE DUE OLA(857)
9300858	02/25/93	02/22/93	03/17/93	

TITLE	MEMBERS NAME	REPLY FOR SIG OF
Senator	J Bennett Johnston	BC

CONSTITUENT'S NAME	SUBJECT
several	inq. comments on PR Docket 92-235

REF TO	REF TO	REF TO	REF TO
PRB / <i>lm</i>			
3-1493			

DATE	DATE	DATE	DATE
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J. BENNETT JOHNSTON
LOUISIANA

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-1802

February 22, 1993

PRB
92-235
856

Mrs. Linda Townsend Solheim, Director
Federal Communications Commission
Legislative Affairs
1919 M Street, N.W., Room 857
Washington, D.C. 20554

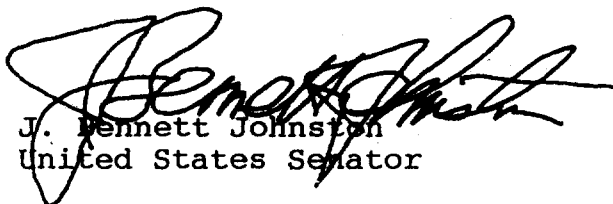
Dear Mrs. Solheim:

Because of my desire to be responsive to all inquiries, I respectfully request your consideration of the enclosed material.

I will appreciate your findings and views, in duplicate form, along with the return of the enclosures by March 22, 1993.

With kindest regards, I am

Sincerely,



J. Bennett Johnston
United States Senator

JBj/gbb
Enclosure

Senator J. Bennett Johnson
U. S. Senate
Washington, D. C. 20510

Dear Mr. Johnson

I am one of the many thousands of avid radio control model enthusiasts in this country. We spend thousands of dollars keeping our equipment updated and safe to use in flying model aircraft, controlling model boats and running model cars. The invisible string that control our models is the radio wave from our transmitters. In 1991, we were required by the FCC to change from wide band frequencies to narrow band which made literally millions of dollars worth of radio equipment obsolete and unusable. The R/C hobby enthusiasts were assured at that time that these frequencies were dedicated to our hobby and would not be changed. Less that two years later, A SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP has changed the mind of the FCC and threatens to totally and completely destroy the use of the millions of dollars we have spent on new equipment. The FCC now proposes, under NPRM PR DOCKET 92-235 to place five new frequencies between each of the existing R/C frequencies. This will again make all of our newly purchased equipment unusable and create a dangerous situation that none of us want. Our equipment controls movable objects whereas the new frequencies would send voice. The new frequencies would have four times the power of our equipment and cause tremendous interference creating the potential for damage to property and people.

This is a hobby that is enjoyed by people of all ages and one in which many fathers and children find a bond. Just for once, let's make the FCC stand by its promise of 1991 that the assigned channels will remain dedicated to R/C activities without interference. For a change, let the Special Interest find other frequency areas for their cellular telephones and let the plain old hard working VOTING citizen of the United States continue to enjoy a good recreational sport with his family and friends.

PLEASE VOTE AGAINST NPRM PR DOCKET 92-235 sponsored by the FCC and the Cellular Telephone Companies.

Thank you for listening to the plight of an avid Radio Control modeler.

Kenneth Bailey

Address

4005 Parkway Drive

Bossier City, La. 71111

Senator J. Bennett Johnson
U. S. Senate
Washington, D. C. 20510

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21.5
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PLEASE VOTE AGAINST NPRM PR DOCKET 92-235 sponsored by the FCC and the Cellular Telephone Companies.

Thank you for listening to the flight of an avid Radio Control modeler.

Keith Johnson

Address

9461 Darrell

Date:

Dr. James D. Edmonds, Jr.
P. O. Box 421
Sulphur, LA U. S. A. 70664

The Honorable J. Bennett Johnston
U.S. Senate
136 Hart Senate Office Bldg.
Washington, D.C. 20510-1803

Dear Senator Johnston:

I derive many hours of enjoyment from constructing and operating radio controlled model airplanes, and I am active in a local club whose members also enjoy constructing and operating radio controlled model airplanes.

I am very concerned about proposed rules that are currently under consideration by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). The proceeding is PR Docket 92-235. If adopted, the new rules will greatly reduce the usability of frequencies currently assigned for model use and increase the risk of accidents and attendant liability for controlling model airplanes.

Our radio control frequencies are in the 72-76 MHz band. This band is primarily used for private land mobile dispatch operations. However, our radio control frequencies in this band are far enough apart from the land mobile frequencies that we have been able to share the band without either use interfering with the other.

Now the FCC wants to create more land mobile frequencies by splitting them into narrower band widths and rearranging the band plan. As a result, many land mobile frequencies will move closer to the radio control frequencies and cause interference to radio control operations. I am told that of the 50 frequencies that are presently available for radio control of model airplanes, only 19 frequencies will be left if these new rules are adopted.

When we fly our model airplanes under radio control, we go to great lengths to assure the safety of the operators and bystanders and the protection of property. Many of our safety precautions involve the careful coordination and use of the radio control frequencies. If the number of usable frequencies is diminished as proposed by the FCC, the remaining frequencies will become congested and the margin of safety will be greatly decreased.

Please understand that many model airplanes have wing spans up to 10 feet and weigh as much as 30 or 40 pounds. The models themselves are expensive to build; but more to the point, they are capable of causing property damage, serious injury, or even death if radio interference causes the operator to lose control to the craft. We often fly our models at organized events and contests where hundreds of operators participate. We need the use of our full complement of radio frequencies in order to assure a safe flying environment.

I do not think it is wise of the FCC to seek to improve the operating conditions of land mobile radio users at the expense of radio control modelers. The FCC may not think we are important as business users of radios but we have a considerable investment in our

January 20, 1993

The Honorable J. Bennett Johnston
United States Senate
Washington, D. C. 20510

103 FEB 15 PM 3:28

Dear Senator Johnston:

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SENATE
JAN 15 PM 3:20

Senator J. Bennett Johnson
U. S. Senate
Washington, D. C. 20510

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February 2, 1993.

1993 FEB 17 AM 9:45

The Honorable J. Bennett Johnston
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Subject: Proposed Rule PR Docket 92-235

Dear Sir:

I have recently retired, and my chief hobby is flying radio-controlled model airplanes. I regularly spend many hours enjoying this hobby at a field which my club has recently purchased.

At present I own six radios and five airplanes, which represent an investment of about \$5000.00. If the subject rule is passed, about half of the radios would become unusable, since the frequencies would likely cause interference, being too close to the frequencies I am using.

The aircraft I fly range from 7 to 15 pounds, and fly at about 60 mph. This aircraft, if control is lost by radio interference, could cause serious bodily harm or even death if it

FEBRUARY 6, 1993

DEAR SENATOR JOHNSON

I AM WRITING TO ASK YOU TO OPPOSE
PROPOSED RULE - PR DOCKET 92-235
WHICH PERTAINS TO NEW RADIO FREQUENCIES